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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: JUL 2000



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

37-12 712/2

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

CONGO

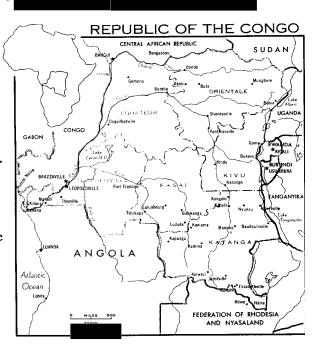
The Leopoldville government has accepted the UN-sponsored plan for reintegrating Katanga with the rest of the Congo.

Prime Minister Adoula and his ministers probably still doubt, however, that the plan will bring Tshombé into line. They requested no important changes in the UN proposals but said that the suggested 50-50 split of Katanga's mineral revenues between Elisabethville and Leopoldville would not satisfy their needs.

Tshombé has publicly reiterated his willingness to join a Congo federation. He has offered to turn over to Leopoldville or to an international body that part of Katanga's revenue which is not "indispensable" to its administration and economy, but there is no indication that these are more than gestures. In fact his recent statement that Katanga would accept reintegration as "an autonomous region" under a new federal constitution may reflect a hardening of his bargaining position since his return from Europe. He fears that the UN will present him with a Congo reconciliation proposal on which the world will already have agreed and about which he will have had little to say. Reportedly, Tshombé is not seriously worried by threats of an economic blockade against Katanga. He believes that such sanctions would affect the European rather than the African population, and he is probably confident that the Portuguese and Northern Rhodesians would maintain supply lines into Katanga.

On 21 August Tshombé left Elisabethville for a ten-day tour of south Katangan tribal areas. To maintain the UN's timetable, UN representative Gardiner plans to go to Elisabethville and present the UN proposal to Tshombé's deputy, but this may postpone any Katangan reply beyond the ten-day limit envisaged by the UN.

On 16 August President
Kasavubu promulgated legislation
creating 16 new Congolese provinces instead of the present
five. North Katanga was not
mentioned.



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WEEKLY REVIEW

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



Small-scale fighting broke out last week south and west of Albertville as Congolese and Katangan units collided apparently while moving to oc-cupy as much disputed North Katangan territory as possible. Fearing a Katangan offensive, the UN moved a Malayan battalion into Albertville and issued an ultimatum to Katanga to cease action at once or risk UN intervention. Fighting has stopped for the moment. The UN also fears the situation at Elisabethville could become critical and has advised US officials that it may need airlift assistance to reinforce its troops in

Katanga. One of the best Congolese battalions is to be incorporated into the UN contingent at Kamina. The Katangans are still keeping 60 railroad carloads of UN gasoline and 50 carloads of UN supplies at the Rhodesian border. The UN may have to airlift rations to replenish dwindling stocks in Elisabethville.

A Katangan mission reportedly returned in mid-August from an eight-day visit to Angola, where it claims to have arranged with Portuguese officials for military support of Katanga, including arms and ammunition. Katanga is also reported to have ordered from West Germany seven Bolkow light aircraft, three of which may have already arrived in Katanga via Angola.

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